

## MIXING DRUM BLADE

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

The present application is related to co-pending International PCT Patent applications entitled MIXING DRUM BLADE SUPPORT by Anthony Khouri and William Rodgers, MIXING DRUM by Anthony Khouri and Peter Saad, MIXING DRUM HATCH by Anthony Khouri, William Rodgers, and Peter Saad, and MIXING DRUM DRIVE RING by Vadim Pihkovich filed concurrently herewith, the full disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

The present application is also related to International Patent Application Serial No. PCT/AU00/01226 filed on October 9, 2000 by William Rogers entitled VEHICLE MOUNTED PLASTICS DRUM FOR CONCRETE MIXING AND METHODS OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF, and International Patent Application Serial No. PCT/AU03/00664 filed on <sup>05/31/2003</sup> by Anthony Khouri entitled VEHICLE MOUNTED CONCRETE MIXING DRUM AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF, the full disclosure of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the field of composite, heavy-duty, rotary, concrete mixing drums capable of attachment to vehicles and components for use with such drums.

Existing concrete mixing trucks or vehicles that are used to transport concrete from one site to another generally make use of a metal mixing drum. The metal mixing drum is mounted to the vehicle and connected at one end to a drive assembly provided on the vehicle that applies the force needed to rotate the drum. The drive assembly is made up of a gear box that is generally powered by the engine of the vehicle. When the gear box is engaged, the engine provides the power or torque needed to rotate the metal mixing drum